

INFANT/TODDLER COURT TEAM



FIRST THINGS FIRST

Ready for School. Set for Life.

FITTING ALL THE PIECES



★ JUDICIAL LEADERSHIP



RECOGNIZED ACROSS THE
UNITED STATES AS THE
NUMBER ONE COMPONENT
OF ANY SUCCESSFUL COURT
TEAM FOR CHILDREN

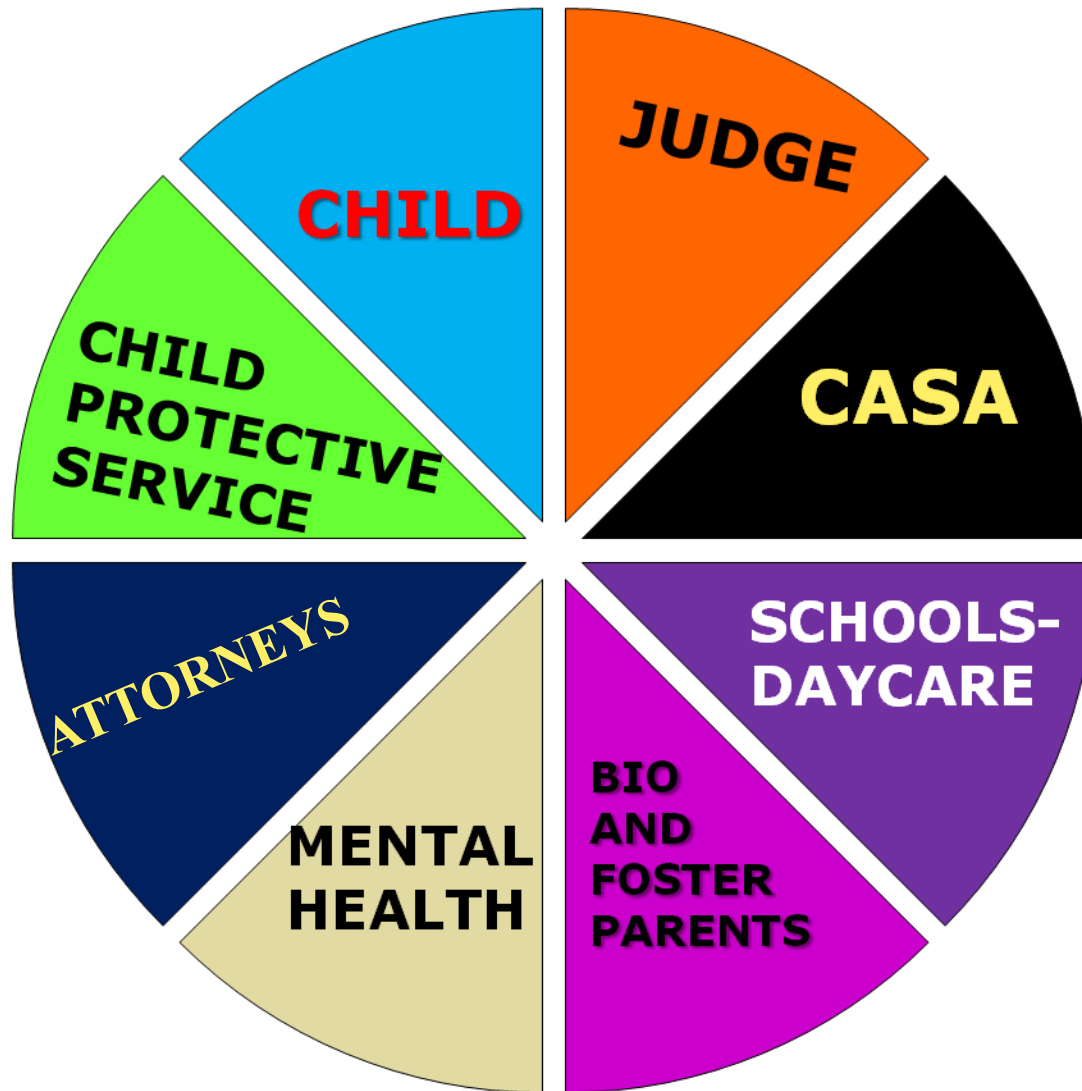


THE HONORABLE RICHARD WEISS₂



**THINGS ARE NOT
ALWAYS WHAT
THEY SEEM**

THE PROJECT





- **5/2012—13,191** children in out of home care in AZ.
- **7/2012--133** Mohave County.
- **77** birth--5.
- Babies compose **2%** of that group.
- **80%** have prenatal drug exposure.
- **4-5** times greater risk of developmental delays.
- **1/2** suffer serious physical abuse.



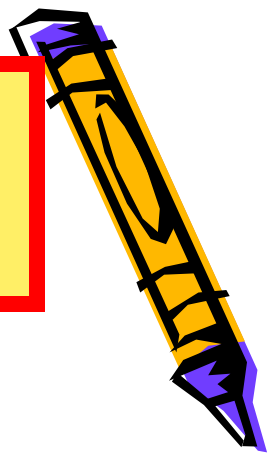
THE NEED

Infants and toddlers are the largest single group of children in foster care in the United States and have the highest rates of victimization across age groups.



THE PROJECT

- **Court Teams for Maltreated children promote the best developmental outcomes for infants and toddlers who have been removed from parents due to abuse or neglect.**



THE PROJECT



- Led by Judge who collaborates with:
 - Child welfare specialists
 - Health professionals
 - Child advocates
 - Community leaders
 - Educational groups



THE PROJECT



- **Assess how well current systems function**
- **Identify gaps**
- **Organize Trainings**
- **Translate evidence-based learning into practice**



Professional Development



74 Trainings

Emphasis on:

1. Safety
2. Physical Health
3. Developmental Services
4. Mental Health
5. Ready for school
6. Permanency



Professional Development

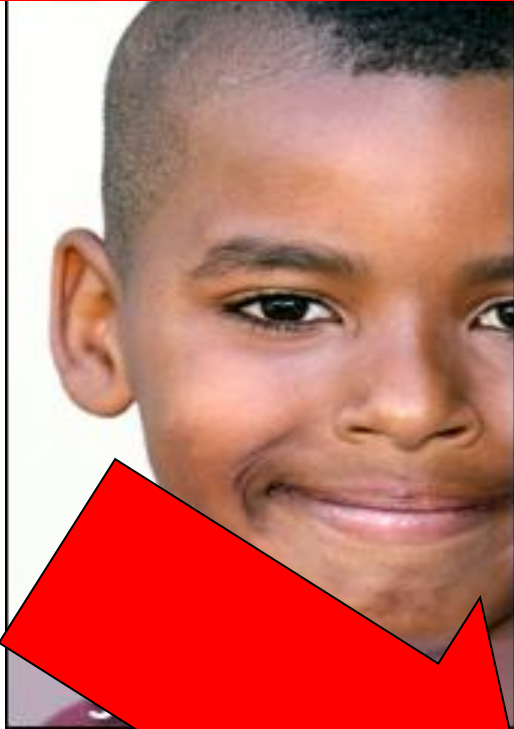


74 Trainings

- Annual Symposium (300)
- 12 National Conferences (51)
- 19 MCCATS/Steering Team (851)



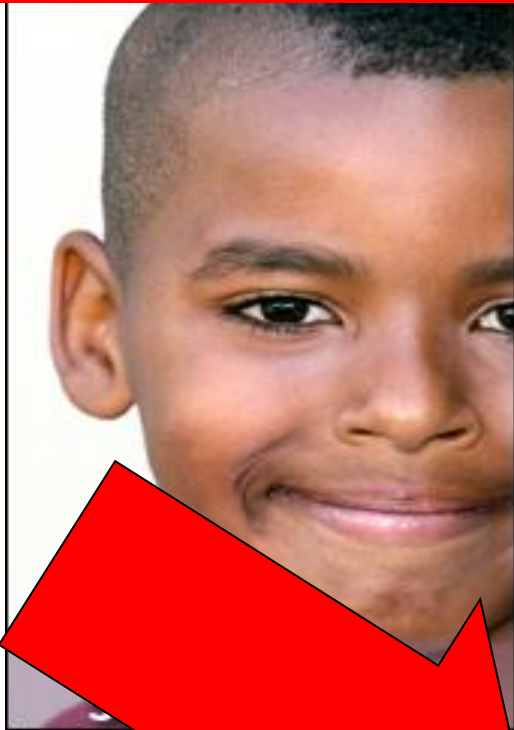
TRAININGS



- Domestic Violence (851)
- Children of RAD
- "Mad Chemist"
- Adverse Childhood Experiences
- Web of Support
- Beyond Consequences
- Moral Reconciliation Therapy



CONFERENCES

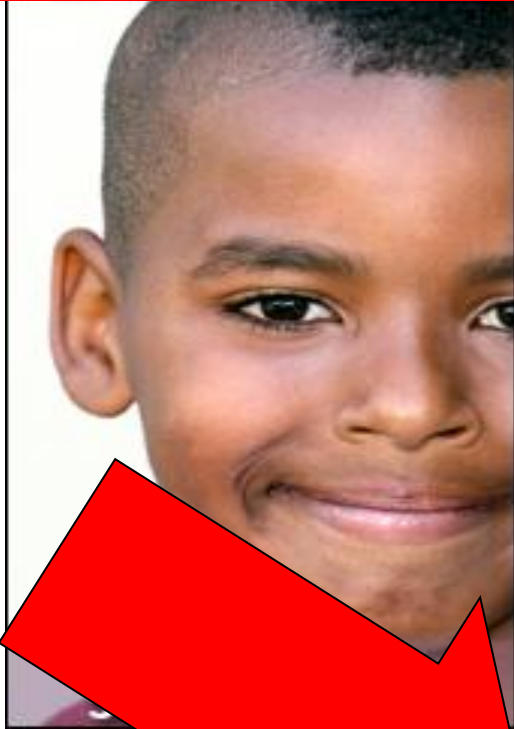


(51)

1. National CASA
2. Zero to Three
3. NCJFCJ
4. American Humane Society
5. American Professional Society Against Abuse of Children



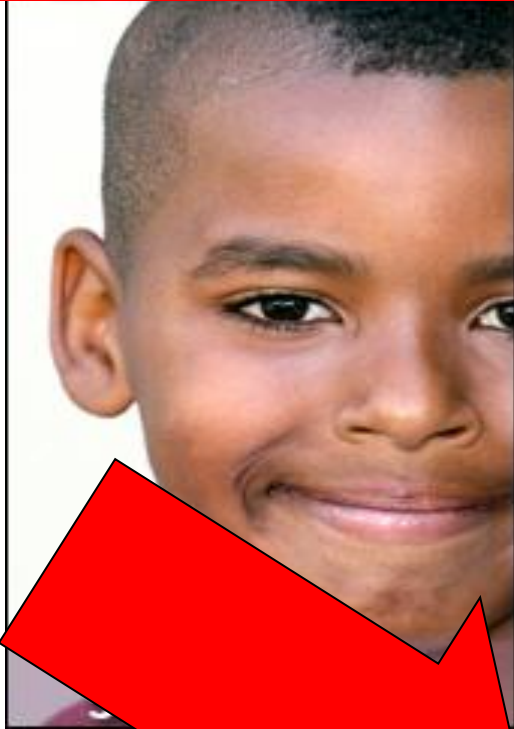
CONFERENCES



6. National Conference Child Abuse and Neglect
7. Family Group Decision Making
8. Children's Mental Health Research and Policy
9. National Association of Council of Children



TRAININGS



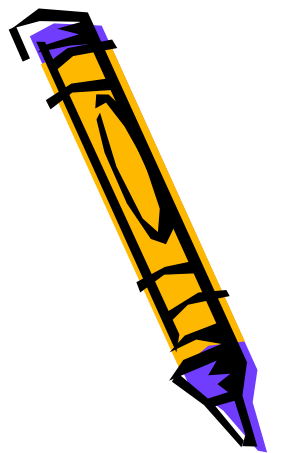
*Dr. Lorenzo Azzí:
Trained Parent Aides for 6
Months*

- Disorders of Attachment*
- Therapeutic Interventions*
- Parent/Infant Circle of Security*
- Collaboration of Providers*



Dr. LORENZO AZZÍ:

- Effects of Welfare on Mental Health
- Normative/Atypical / Behavior
- Impact of Trauma/Maltreatment
- Visitation Monitoring



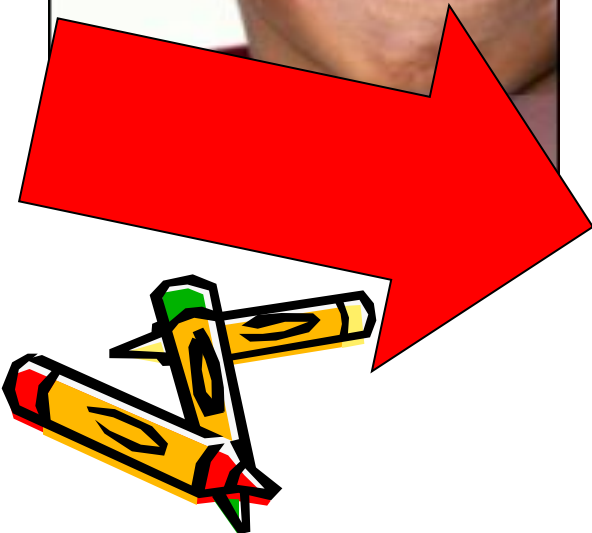
TRAININGS



Fatherhood Now (3) **12-week sessions**

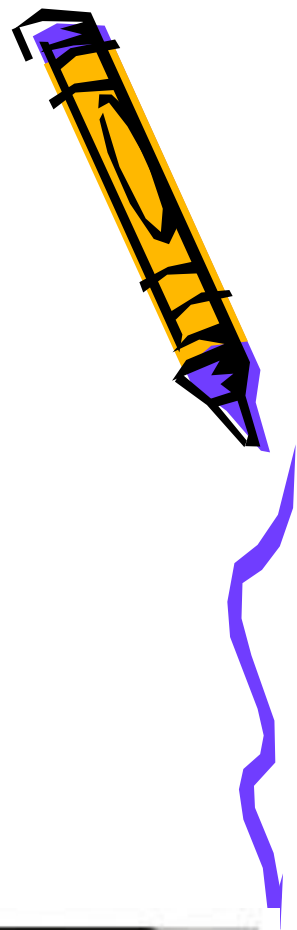
- *Recommended by Judge*
- *Recommended by Attorney or case manager*

*Provided by Interagency
Trained Fathers/Case
Workers*



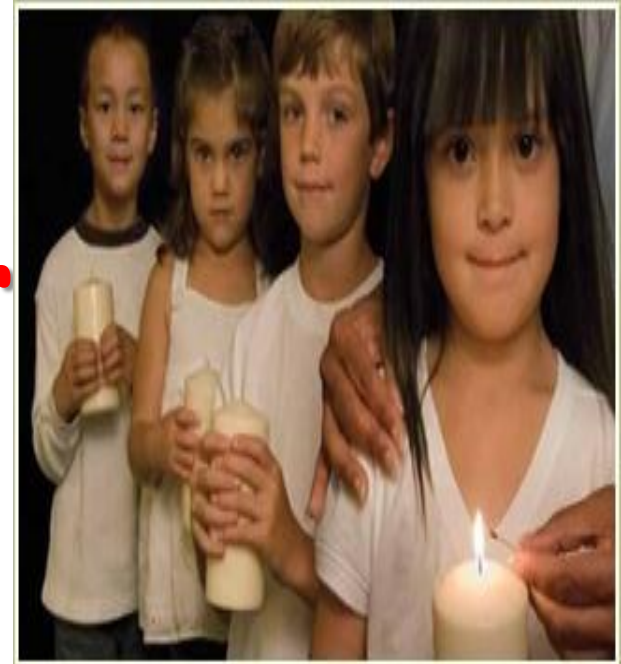
Steering Team

- How decisions can be made in the best interest of the child, maintaining policy and law.
- Methods to support foster parents and Bio-parents
- Systemic improvements



What Now?

- Best Practice
- Evidence-Based Practice
- Support and Training for all parties involved
- **BEST INTEREST OF CHILD FIRST**
- Systemic improvements



WHAT NOW?

Systemic Change

- EARLIER INTERVENTION
- INDIVIDUALIZED CASE PLANS
- MORE PRODUCTIVE VISITATION
- BETTER PARENTING CHECKLISTS
- BABY COURT



KEY PLAYERS

PARTNERSHIPS

Judge

Parents

CPS

Public Health

School Leaders CASAs

Ameripych Interagency

Sheriff's Officers AZEIP

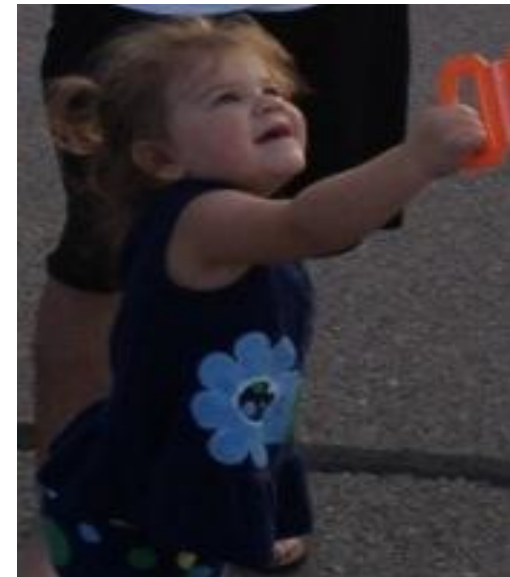
Westcare

Attorneys

Foster parents

Mental Health Providers

Early Childhood Care





Ready for School. Set for Life.



**Your kids
make memories
everyday.**

**It's not too
late to change
how they
remember you.**



Thank you!



Ready for School. Set for Life.

